

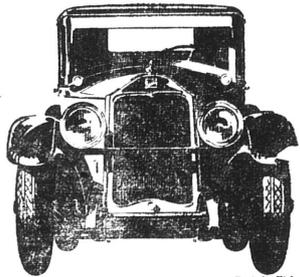


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Of the City of Torrance, in the County of Los Angeles, State of California, Chas. T. Rippey, Recorder.

J. Isenstein, Plaintiff vs. Fred Korman, Defendant. Case No. 302, Simmons. The people of the State of California send greetings to Fred Korman, Defendant.

You are hereby directed to appear in an action brought against you by the above named plaintiff in the Recorder's Court of the City of Torrance, Los Angeles County, State of California, and to answer before the Recorder at his office in the said City of Torrance, the complaint filed therein, within five days (exclusive of the day of ser-

vice) after the service on you of this summons, if served within the city in which this action is brought; or, if served out of said city, but within said County, within ten days; or, within twenty days if served elsewhere. And you are hereby notified that unless you so appear and answer said complaint, as above required, said plaintiff will cause your default to be entered and take judgment for any money or damages demanded in the complaint, as arising upon contract, or will apply to the Court for relief demanded in the complaint, together with the costs of suit. Given under my hand this 23rd day of March, 1927.  
Chas. T. Rippey,  
Recorder, City of Torrance, Los Angeles County, State of California

## THE OWENS VALLEY DISPUTE

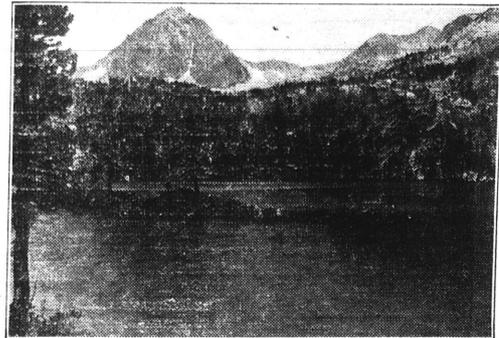
The Story of Owens Valley, Its Dealings With the City of Los Angeles and the Dynamiting Attacks Upon the City's Aqueduct

By DON J. KINSEY

(Editor's Note—This is the twelfth and last of a series of short articles revealing the facts in connection with the Los Angeles-Owens Valley water controversy. These articles are published by the Los Angeles Bureau of Water, Power and Light.)

### OWENS VALLEY TODAY

On August 1, 1927, Owens Valley was stricken by a financial disaster without parallel in California. On that day the five Watterson banks closed their doors and refused to honor the drafts of all depositors. Failure of the Watterson banks meant the wiping out of every financial institution in Inyo County, since the Wattersons operated the only banks, trust and finance companies in the county.



One of the two thousand snow-fed lakes in the Owens Valley-High Sierras region which is destined to become, it is believed by many, a world-famous tourist center.

Since 1923 the City of Los Angeles had been pouring money into the little Valley at the foot of the High Sierras. It had distributed through its water land purchases, a total of more than \$12,000,000 in a region with a population not exceeding 7,000. It had made Owens Valley the richest community per capita of any similar area in the country. Then, overnight, the Valley had been plunged into economic chaos.

There were scores of ranchers who had spent their lives wresting a modest living from the soil of the Valley. When the city launched its land purchases, they had sold out, many of them receiving from \$20,000 to \$100,000 for their holdings. They placed their money on deposit with the Wattersons and counted themselves comfortably wealthy and independent for the rest of their lives. Many of these people were made penniless by the failure of the banks in which they had possessed unquestioning faith.

More than 70 per cent of the Valley farm land purchased by the city had been leased to ranchers, in many instances the former owners. It happened that the semi-annual rental payments on these ranches fell due a few days after the Watterson banks closed their doors. Seeking to extend some measure of relief to these ranchers, the Board of Water and Power Commissioners notified them that all rental payments could be deferred until such time as these charges could be met without financial strain or embarrassment. It soon became apparent, however, that there were many in the Valley in need of immediate financial aid. Several weeks after the bank failures, a committee of citizens from the Valley appeared before the Board and urged that the city provide as much work and as large a payroll as possible for the Valley people during the winter months. In response to this request, the Board immediately took action, authorizing a special \$300,000 construction program during the coming winter in connection with the aqueduct system. The work included in this program, ordinarily would have been deferred until the following summer, but in order to provide a large winter payroll for Owens Valley, it was decided to push the work through at once. The construction program included the building of a permanent aqueduct, warehouse and headquarters in Independence, the drainage of a large area of water-logged land near Bishop and the drilling of a number of wells in the same region.

In addition to the special work authorized by the Board, the Water Bureau already had under construction near the town of Big Pine, a new water storage basin known as the Tinemaha dam and reservoir. All this construction work, coupled with the regular aqueduct and power plant operation and maintenance work, it is estimated, will assure a payroll for the Valley people exceeding \$75,000 a month throughout the winter season.

With the coming of spring and summer, the Valley will begin to harvest its farm crops, and will be well on its way toward better and happier conditions. With the summer there will come also to the Valley the vacationists and the tourists. In fact, there are those who believe that the matchless scenic beauty of the High Sierras is destined to make Owens Valley a nationally famous resort center, with all the prosperity that accompanies such activity.

That a large percentage of the best agricultural land will be kept under cultivation by the city has been plainly indicated by officials

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of the Water Bureau. Already the city has expended a quarter of a million dollars in improving purchased ranch properties. It is now busily engaged in drilling wells to be used largely for the benefit of the irrigators.

The dominant economic force in Owens Valley today, of course, is the city of Los Angeles. Responsible representatives of the city repeatedly have declared that they stand ready to co-operate with the Valley people in the working out of a constructive program of development. For twenty years the consumption of such a program has been thwarted by those who have preached hatred and violence against the city. But the failure of the Watterson banks apparently has marked the passing of the night- rider and the dynamiter. And now,

perhaps, the time has arrived when the city and the Valley will be permitted to join hands in peace and mutual helpfulness.  
(The End)

## LOCAL NOTES

Mrs. Dora Oberstaedt of St. Joseph, Missouri, is spending the winter with her daughter, Mrs. C. A. Danberry of Narbonne avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. John Cone of 257th street spent Friday with friends in Los Angeles.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Nielson of 257th street were dinner guests Friday of Mrs. Nielson's mother, Mrs. Max Milz of Los Angeles.



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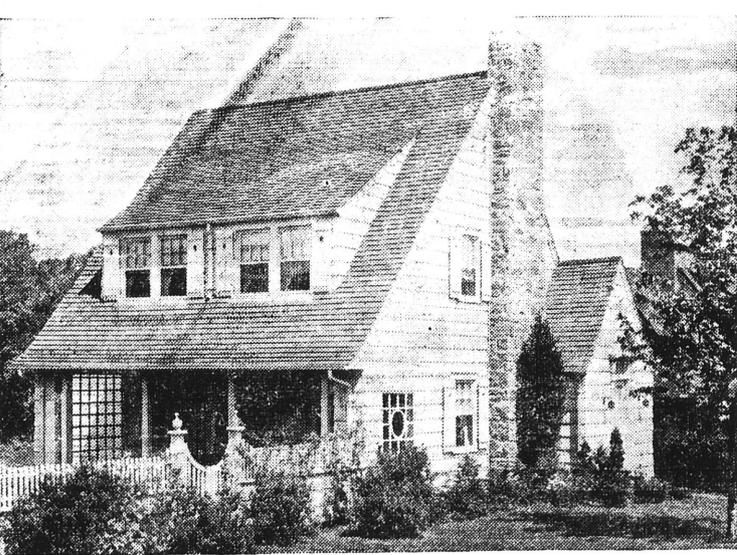
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## Build and Live in Torrance

### Distinctive Character in This Small House



By R. C. Hunter and Bro., Architects, New York.

The striking character of the exterior of this house cannot but appeal to those who like distinction that comes within the bounds of good taste. The entrance doorway and the massive stone chimney are the two focal points of the front. Well proportioned windows divided into small panes also add character.

The walls are shingles painted a very pale cream, the shutters an apple green and the front entrance and other woodwork is painted cream color to match the shingle walls. The roof is shingle stained dark green.

One enters the house through a vestibule where an abundance of closet space is found. From here we pass into the Living Room, the stairs are to the right and directly out of this room. The large open fire place makes this a cheerful room. The Dining Room opens off the Living Room. Both the Living Room and Dining Room have glass doors to the large Living Porch. The kitchen and rear entry complete this floor.

On the second floor are three good sized Bed Rooms and a Bath.

The house measures thirty-three feet, eight inches across the front and could be built on a fifty foot lot, with good space, on either side. A frontage of sixty feet would give a good garden at the side adjacent to the Living Porch as shown in the picture.

Cost about \$6,000.

Complete working plans and specifications of this house may be obtained for a nominal sum from the Building Editor. Refer to House H-A-85.

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